

marily dealing with various aspects of cardiac and coronary disease, which will be of considerable value to the reader.

The book will be of considerable interest to nurses and to those physicians who wish to understand more about how first-class nursing care can be given to patients if the nurses are instructed in the proper philosophy and roles of her mission.

MAURICE SOKOLOW, M.D.

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**OUTLINE OF ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY**—H. Harold Friedman, M.D., F.A.C.P., F.A.C.C., Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado Medical Center; Attending Physician and Electrocardiographer, General Rose Memorial Hospital, Denver; Attending Cardiologist, National Jewish Hospital and Veterans Administration Hospital, Denver. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., (The Blakiston Division) 330 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036, 1963. 300 pages, \$5.95.

In this outline the author endeavors to present the basic concepts of electrocardiography and the fundamentals of electrocardiographic diagnosis. This well-bound, easy-to-read, soft-covered handbook is divided into twenty-four chapters which are superbly organized and written with succinct clarity. The scope is quite comprehensive and the material presented is simplified. Several sections may appear rather dogmatic to some readers but this is almost unavoidable in any outline format. However, the diagnostic criteria listed in the text represent a consensus of authoritative electrocardiographers. In addition, the reader is provided with a splendid supplemental reference bibliography relating to the appropriate research and clinical data.

Numerous diagrams and illustrative electrocardiograms are utilized to complement and amplify the author's superimposed brevity. Dr. Friedman devotes some attention to the analysis of the electrocardiogram by the spatial vector as described by Dr. Robert P. Grant, and he also includes a few remarks on basic considerations in vectorcardiography. Included in the Appendix are numerous reference tables relating to the routinely measured intervals and amplitudes. The index is accurate and reasonably detailed.

This outline ranks high on the list of the many similar books on the market today. It is especially recommended for medical students and house officers, as well as the practicing physician who wishes to review the fundamentals of electrocardiography.

MORTON ROSENBLUM, M.D.

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**ATLAS OF BLOOD CYTOLOGY**—Cytomorphology, Cytochemistry and Cytogenetics—G. Forteza Bover, M.D., with the collaboration of R. Bagueña Candela, M.D. Translated by F. G. Golton, J. Vinas and J. Triginer; preface by William Dameshek, M.D. Distributed in the U.S.A. by Grune & Stratton, Inc., New York, 1964. 511 pages, \$39.50.

This beautiful book was printed in Spain with over 150 plates, each with two or more photomicrographs in color ( $\times 1200$ ), of large size and with brief accompanying description. The translation is excellent and there are no problems with terminology.

The book is divided into three parts, including details of staining methods, normal and pathologic cells. Much emphasis has been placed on cytochemical staining and illustrations of various stains along with fluorescent and phase microscopy are presented with the May-Grunwald-Giemsa stain. One finds it difficult to agree with the author at the present time that the classical staining methods have been "largely superseded" by these newer techniques. However the presentation of this material is probably the most unique and valuable aspect of the book.

The quality of reproduction is excellent except for a few plates. Fine details of cytoplasmic granulation and nuclear

chromatin can be distinguished. The color is generally faithfully reproduced although the eosinophilic granules of Plate I are not eosinophilic as are those of eosinophils illustrated elsewhere. The pictures of infectious mononucleosis are among the poorest.

Blood, bone marrow and lymph node material of all varieties are included. There are good plates of tumor cells, parasites, chromosome abnormalities, and of disorders of the lymph nodes and reticulohistiocytic system. No illustrations of osteoblasts were found.

In the copy reviewed, ten pages were out of place and the descriptions did not face the plate. Plate XLII, Hypochromic Iron Deficiency Anemia, illustrates no hypochromia or any features that would permit diagnosis from the picture. In Plate XVI, the lower picture is probably upside down because the descriptive text and illustration don't correspond, but it is difficult to be sure what is wrong. This demonstrates the problem with all current atlases for ideally there should be no problem in simple identification of cells or disorders from the picture.

Medical libraries will include this atlas in their hematology collections, but its cost will force most students to use the more reasonable Diggs or Sandoz atlases. The practicality of cytochemical stains and other special methodology remains to be seen. The definitive atlas of hematology has not yet appeared.

WILLIAM F. LUTTGENS, M.D.

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**THE ATRIOVENTRICULAR NODE**—And Selected Cardiac Arrhythmias—David Scherf, M.D., F.A.C.P., Professor of Clinical Medicine, New York Medical College; and Jules Cohen, M.D., F.A.C.P., Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, New York Medical College. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y., 1964. 466 pages, \$18.75.

This monograph, as the preface states, is a series of loosely connected essays dealing with selected disturbances of the cardiac rhythm involving the atrioventricular node. It is really a review of the literature with a few comments regarding the authors' position on some of the atrioventricular nodal problems under discussion. The review is complete and scholarly and each chapter has a fairly complete bibliography beginning with the earliest work on the subject. Because of the authors' European background, French and German references form a substantial portion of the bibliography. This is of great value to the American reader because a good deal of the early work published in these foreign languages is available for review.

The contents of the monograph form a fairly comprehensive discussion of the atrioventricular node, its anatomy and physiology, and a differential diagnosis of all varieties of atrioventricular rhythm. Included also are atrioventricular block, return extrasystoles, atrioventricular dissociation bloc, return extrasystoles, atrioventricular nodal parasyctole, and pre-excitation syndrome. The chapters dealing with atrioventricular dissociation, pre-excitation syndrome, and atrioventricular rhythm are particularly comprehensive and well illustrated.

Even though the authors state that the section on treatment of the discussed arrhythmias "purposely was kept as sketchy as possible," the clinician will indeed regret that not only is treatment scarcely mentioned but neither are the clinical implications of the disturbances of rhythm under discussion. For example, under atrioventricular dissociation a very short paragraph indicates that digitalis plays an important role, but this is confined to indicating what percentage of patients with the arrhythmia was probably due to digitalis. No discussion of the difficulties in establishing digitalis toxicity, its relationship to atrial tachy-